

SUBCHAPTER C—PERSONNEL

PART 716—DEATH GRATUITY

Subpart A—Provisions Applicable to the Navy and the Marine Corps

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SOURCE: 24 FR 7523, Sept. 18, 1959, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—Provisions Applicable to the Navy and the Marine Corps

§ 716.1 Principal rule.

Under title 10 U.S.C., section 1475, the Secretary of the Navy shall have a death gratuity paid immediately upon official notification of the death of a member of the naval service who dies while on active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training. The death gratuity shall equal six months' basic pay (plus special, incentive, and proficiency pay) at the rate to which the deceased member was entitled on the date of his death but shall not be less than \$800 nor more than \$3,000. A kind of special pay included is the 25% increase in pay to which a member serving on a naval vessel in foreign waters is entitled under 10 U.S.C. 5540 when retained beyond expiration of enlistment because such retention was essential to the public interest.

§ 716.2 Definitions.

For the purposes of this part, terms are defined as follows:

(a) *Member of the naval service.* This term includes:

(1) A person appointed, enlisted, or inducted into the Regular Navy, Regular Marine Corps, Naval Reserve or Marine Corps Reserve, and includes a midshipman at the United States Naval Academy;

(2) Enlisted members of the Fleet Reserve and Fleet Marine Corps Reserve and retired members;

(3) A member of the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps when ordered to annual training duty for 14 days or more, and while performing authorized travel to and from that duty; and

(4) Any person while en route to or from, or at a place for final acceptance for entry upon active duty in the naval service who has been ordered or directed to go to that place, and who has been provisionally accepted for such duty.

(b) *Active duty.* This term is defined as (1) full-time duty performed by a member of the naval service, other than active duty for training, or (2) as a midshipman at the United States Naval Academy, and (3) authorized travel to or from such duty or service.

(c) *Active duty for training.* Such term means:

(1) Full-time duty performed by a member of a Reserve component of the naval service for training purposes;

(2) Annual training duty performed for a period of 14 days or more by a member of the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps; and

(3) Authorized travel to or from such duty.

(d) *Inactive-duty training.* Such term is defined as any of the training, instruction, appropriate duties, or equivalent training, instruction, duty, appropriate duties, or hazardous duty performed with or without compensation by a member of a Reserve component prescribed by the Secretary of the Navy pursuant to sections 206, 309, and

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1002 of title 37 U.S.C. or any other provision of law. The term does not include:

(1) Work or study performed by a member of a Reserve component in connection with correspondence courses in which he is enrolled, or

(2) Attendance at an educational institution in an inactive status under the sponsorship of the Navy or Marine Corps.

[24 FR 7523, Sept. 16, 1959, as amended at 37 FR 6471, Mar. 30, 1972; 44 FR 25647, May 2, 1979]

§ 716.3 Special situations.

(a) *Service without pay.* Any member of a Reserve component who performs active duty, active duty for training, or inactive-duty training without pay shall, for purposes of a death gratuity payment, be considered as being entitled to basic pay, including special pay and incentive pay if appropriate, while performing such duties.

(b) *Death occurring while traveling to and from active duty for training and inactive-duty training.* Any member of a Reserve component who, when authorized or required by competent authority, assumes an obligation to perform active duty for training or inactive-duty training and who dies from an injury incurred on or after January 1, 1957 while proceeding directly to or directly from such active duty for training or inactive-duty training, shall be deemed to have been on active duty for training or inactive-duty training as the case may be.

(c) *Hospitalization.* A member of a Reserve component who suffers disability while on active duty, active duty for training, or inactive-duty training, and who is placed in a new status while he is receiving hospitalization or medical care (including out-patient care) for such disability, shall be deemed, for purposes of death gratuity payment to have continued on active duty, active duty for training, or inactive-duty training, as the case may be, in the event of his death in such status.

(d) *Discharge or release from a period of active duty.* A person who is discharged or released from active duty (other than for training) is considered to continue on that duty during the period of time required for that person to go to

his home by the most direct route. That period may not end before midnight of the day on which the member is discharged or released.

[24 FR 7523, Sept. 18, 1959, as amended at 25 FR 7792, Aug. 16, 1960]

§ 716.4 Eligible survivors.

(a) The death gratuity shall be paid to or for the living survivor or survivors of the deceased member first listed below:

(1) The lawful spouse. (For purpose of this part, a man or woman shall be considered to be the spouse if legally married to the member at the time of the member's death.)

(2) His children (without regard to their age or marital status) in equal shares.

(3) Parent(s), brother(s) or sister(s) or any combination of them, when designated by the deceased member.

(4) Undesignated parents in equal shares.

(5) Undesignated brothers and sisters in equal shares. In paragraphs (a)(2), (3) and (4), respectively, of this section, the terms "child" and "parent" have the meanings assigned to them by title 10 U.S.C. section 1477 and the term "parents" includes persons in loco parentis as indicated by that section. The terms "brother" and "sister" in paragraphs (a) (3) and (5) of this section include brothers and sisters of the half blood and those through adoption.

(b) *Designation of payee by service member.* Where the service member has designated a beneficiary and is not survived by a spouse, child, or children, the payment will be made to the specific person designated by him provided the designee falls within the class of beneficiaries permitted as set forth in paragraph (a)(3) of this section. If more than one person is so designated on the Record of Emergency, payment will be made in equal shares unless the member designated a proportionate share to each beneficiary. Frivolous designations, such as one per centum to a particular beneficiary, should not be made.

(c) *Death of survivor prior to receipt of gratuity.* (1) If a survivor dies before receiving payment, or if a designated beneficiary predeceases the member